

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

NO. 1970

H.P. 1459 House of Representatives, January 7, 1988
Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and
Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

Reference to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife
suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk
Presented by Representative GREENLAW of Standish.

Cosponsored by Senator USHER of Cumberland,
Representatives FARREN of Cherryfield, and JACQUES of
Waterville.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT

1 AN ACT to Amend the Framework Within Which the
2 Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
3 May Establish Deer Hunting
4 Seasons.
5

6 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as
7 follows:

8 12 MRSA §7457, sub-§1, ¶A, as amended by PL
9 1981, c. 414, §31, is further amended to read:

1 A. There shall be an open season on deer in each
2 calendar year in all counties of the State from
3 the 5th Monday preceding Thanksgiving to
4 November-30th December 10th.

5 STATEMENT OF FACT

6 Current law provides for an open season on deer in
7 each calendar year from the 5th Monday preceding
8 Thanksgiving to November 30th. The Commissioner of
9 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has authority to shorten
10 the season within the statutory framework and, for the
11 past several years, has shortened the season to 4
12 weeks with the season coming to an end on the Saturday
13 following Thanksgiving.

14 Some years, depending on the calendar, it would be
15 advantageous to open the 4-week deer hunting season a
16 few days later and extend it into December. A later
17 opening would help eliminate many of the conflicts
18 which develop between various resource-user groups
19 when the deer hunting season opens in late October, as
20 it did last fall.

21 A deer season extending a few days into December
22 also creates the potential for more opportunity to
23 hunt on snow, a condition which many deer hunters
24 prefer.

25 This bill extends by 10 days the statutory
26 framework within which the commissioner may establish
27 the annual deer hunting season. With this change in
28 place, the 1988 deer hunting season could run from
29 November 5th to December 3rd, rather than from October
30 29th to November 26th, as it would occur without the
31 extended framework.

32 4525120987